

ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION.
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OFFICIAL PERMISSION FOR RAISING
A BATTALION OF 1,000 MEN, WHICH WILL BE
RAISED IN THE ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION
AND WHO WILL SERVE
TOGETHER AS A UNIT.
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— GOD SAVE THE KING.

Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

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MOTORS.
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No. 17,980. 號十八百九千七萬一第 日一十二月一十年卯乙 HONGKONG, MONDAY, DECEMBER 27TH, 1915. 一拜禮 號七十二月二十年四國民華中 PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH.

THE HOME MAILS.

TO DEPART.

Dec. 26th.—Europe via Siberia, at 8 p.m.,
per A.A. ANGELO.
Dec. 26th.—Shanghai, North China, Japan
via Nagasaki, United States,
South America and Canada via
San Francisco and United King-
dom via Canada, at 11 a.m., per
S.S. SHINKO MARU.
Dec. 30th.—Straits, Ceylon, Port Said,
Marseilles and London, at 11
a.m., per S.S. KASHIMA MARU.
Dec. 30th.—Straits, Burmah, Ceylon, Ad-
elaide, Western Australia, India,
Aden, Egypt and Europe, at 1
p.m., per S.S. NANKIN.
Dec. 30th.—Europe via Siberia, at 8 p.m.,
per S.S. SINGAPORE.

N.B.—For further returns and for Mails to
and from the Coast Ports, Manila,
Siam, etc., see the Post Office Notice
on the last page of this issue.

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SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1914. [724]

PEAK TRAMWAY COMPANY
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.	
1.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m.	Every 15 minutes.
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The Hongkong Typhoon, Sept. 18th, 1906, Illustrated Account	0.50	Hongkong Weekly Press, half-yearly vol., bound	7.50
Temporary Mining Regulations in China	0.50	Sixty Years Anglo-Chinese Calendar, 1854 to 1915	2.00
Regulations for Railway Construction in China	0.50	Rate of Exchange at Hongkong, English Mail days 1874	—
Hongkong Hansard Reports of the Meetings of the Legislative Council, Published Annually	5.00	Bombay Rates of Exchange at Hongkong, English Mail days, 1893	1.00
Mountings of Naval Guns and their Subsequent Use with the Ladyship Relief Column	1.00	Called Out: or the Chung Wang's Daughter, an Anglo-Chinese Romance, by Chas. J. H. Halcombe	2.00
Warlike Exploits of the Merchant Navy, by J. E. Featherstonhaugh	1.00	Plan of the West River	1.00
Political Obstacles to Missionary Success in China	0.25	"Victoria"	1.00
Trade Mark Regulations in China	0.25	"Kowloon"	0.75
		"Peak"	0.75
		"New Territory"	0.75
		Power of Attorney Form	0.25
		Mail Tables for 1914, on card	0.25
		Do. on paper	0.25

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

S.S. "ATHOS"

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns and/or extra Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignee before Noon, To-day, requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Underwriter. Goods remaining unclaimed after the 27th December, at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges.

All claims must be sent in to me on or before the 27th December, or they will not be recognised.

All damaged packages will be examined on Thursday, 28th December, at 10 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

P. THOMAS, Agent.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"NOVARA"
Arrived Hongkong on 22nd December, 1915.
FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

Consignees of the above-named vessel are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed.

This vessel brings on Cargo:—
From London, &c., ex ss. "Arabia" and "Kashgar".

From Persian Gulf, ex ss. B. I. S. N. and B. & P. S. N. Co.'s Steamers.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary within 6 hours.

Goods not cleared within 8 days including date of arrival will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignee, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD and DOUGLAS, at 10 A.M. on MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns.

E. V. PARR,
For Superintendent.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1915.

CHINESE EXTRADITION CASE.

SUMMARY OF PUINSE JUDGE'S JUDGMENT.

The Full Court on Friday discharged Hung Chiu Lung, whose surrender was requested by the Chinese Government. It was alleged that the fugitive had committed murder at Santohuk, in the jurisdiction of China.

Following is a short summary of the judgment of the Puisse Judge (Mr. Justice Gompertz):—

It is clear law that so long as a Magistrate keeps within his jurisdiction a superior Court has no power to interfere with his decision.

The clear principle that the Magistrate is the sole judge of facts is, of course, to be construed subject to the other very clear and familiar principle of law that it is no part of his duty to try the case. When he has said that there is a case for trial, he cannot be interfered with unless there is really no evidence at all to support his finding. But the hearing before him is no more than preliminary enquiry.

He may, of course, find that there is no case, that it fails, either by its own inherent weakness, or because it is destroyed by the evidence for the defence.

The law confers two distinct substantive rights upon the accused; the first is the right, stated in express terms not to be surrendered if the Magistrate is in his favour. The other which follows by necessary implication is to have an express decision on this point from the Magistrate.

It is a serious matter that when the liberty of the subject is concerned a prisoner should be deprived of a right conferred upon him by statute even though it be an abstract right.

But the question is more than academic; it is really one of practical importance, for various reasons. For instance it may be of the greatest value to the accused to learn the Magistrate's decision at the earliest possible moment in order that if he is unsuccessful he may begin to prepare his case before the Supreme Court. I have said enough on this point to show that a legal right has in my opinion been violated and the question remains what are to be the consequences to the accused?

In the case before us the prisoner has been denied a legal right and I agree that that vitiates the whole proceedings before the Magistrate. It is our plain duty to declare the commitment warrant bad and to direct that the prisoner be discharged.

It is not the province of this Court to protect a friendly state against an enquiry it has itself stipulated for and agreed to.

The Chinese Extradition Ordinance provides only the same safeguards as exist in extradition proceedings between Great Britain and the other Powers of Europe and America. The surrendering State refuses to relinquish to the tribunals of the requesting State the decision whether the case presented against the accused is really a colourable cloak for punishment to be awarded on other grounds. Now is this an unreasonable position. I may, of course, be urged that the Court of trial sitting in the locality of the alleged crime has greater facilities for deciding upon the merits of conflicting testimony and is more likely to arrive at the truth than the tribunal of a foreign country. The answer is, I think, that for a fugitive alleging ulterior motive, trial abroad may offer facilities for defence which might not be available to him in his own country. He is actually obnoxious to his government for political causes, it may be very difficult for his witnesses to appear.

In the case before us if the accused is really a rebel and not a murderer, his right is to be discharged on trial either by the Court here or, after surrender, the Court in China. But in the latter case any of his friends who should appear to testify in his favour before the Chinese Court might find it difficult to satisfy the authorities in China that they were themselves accomplices in rebellion and as such liable to punishment. *De facto* governments look with little favour upon opponents of the settled order. In England it was not until the late Mr. William III. that a prisoner accused of high treason was given by statute the right to make defence by counsel and to call witnesses.

Another answer, of course, is that the consociated Powers have for their own purposes specifically agreed that on this issue the Court of trial shall be within the surrendering state and that the accused may proffer his defence there subject always to the disadvantage that the burden of proof is upon him.

In many cases it must be supposed that a defence which is successful here would be equally successful at the trial after the surrender. But the law has provided this privilege for the prisoner who can make good this point on the extradition enquiry; that he is not liable to be surrendered at all.

In my view, therefore, it is our duty to proceed to an examination of the evidence and to give a definite finding upon the question of ulterior motive; either that the prisoner has satisfied us upon this point or that he has been unsuccessful.

If the Court of trial in Canton had had before it the evidence that has been produced to us here and if the case for the defence had been presented with the same ability, I have no doubt that the result would have been the same as it has been before this Court. If, on the other hand, it were impossible to produce the witnesses for the defence and if the points in favour of the prisoner were not properly brought out, it might be impossible for him to rebut the ingeniously concocted story of the prosecution.

WAR AND TOYS.

CHANGED TASTES OF THE CHILDREN.

He is just an ordinary little present-day boy; dull in a lot of things and very keen in others. He realises that a great war is being fought; at the same time he is looking forward joyfully to New Year's Day and a heap of presents. For better or for worse his tastes have changed. Formerly he was anxious for engines which dashed around the legs of the dining-table, or something which produced hideous noises; the more hideous the better he was pleased—and it did not matter to him that all his instruments of torture to his elders' jaded nerves were made in Germany. They were toys, and that was sufficient. To-day he is all for war games. Tin cavalry, infantry, and artillery guaranteed to belong to the Allied armies, trenches and big guns, a sword and a rifle, along with some tin German regiments which he will annihilate at intervals on the play-room floor. It has all been schemed out in his little mind; he intends to do his share in the great war, and the toy shops are going to assist him. For hours he has watched the windows transformed into battle-grounds—cavalry ready to charge at the word of command, men waiting as patiently in their trenches as only tin soldiers know how, bayonets fixed, and with huge guns pointing ominously in the rear. The picture has impressed itself on his mind, he has dreamed of the scene, has shouted lustily of victory in his sleep, and has told Daddie all about it in the morning. And Dad will have to sally forth one day to buy a battle, under penalty of no peace of mind. The shops are chiefly to blame, for they have catered to the tastes of the youngsters to an even greater degree this year than last. My boy is obsessed.

Only a few evenings ago we were talking of toys, and Jim, "our boy," was brought into the council. He was asked in what direction his tastes lay. There was no reply. "Engine?" suggested his fearfully original Father. "No," this with a decided snap, uncommon to a youngster. I came forward with "Teddy Bear"—and the look of disgust which Jim gave me spoke volumes. "What's wrong?" inquired his mother of me. "Nuffin," I replied; but I no longer wanted engine, and no want Teddy Bear, was Jim's almost angry reply. "Well, sonny what do you want?" I am wishing now that this question had never been asked. Jim was fully prepared, and at once proceeded to read out the following, which he considered necessary to make him a happy and contented boy at this festive season:—

"I want some tin soldiers. I want some English soldiers, walking ones and those on geesees; some French soldiers, and some oh, all those soldiers who are fighting the Germans. And I want some Germans; to be killed by my soldiers. I want some trenches with all those little wire railings, some guns; and some little motor-cars with crosses on them and some aeroplanes. I want to have a big battle and to kill some Germans; and I know where you can buy them all. You take me Daddy!"

Daddy groaned a little at the prospect of the war programme which he would have to finance. "Well, I just looked at Jim and felt proud of him, and the knowledge he has gained of battle-fields as the result of watching the window-dressing. He can tell you the exact formation of a trench, how and when men should leave their trenches, and even how men can be wounded or killed, according to taste. His remarkable."

And the boy has not erred. I have visited one of the shops myself, and seen a great battle, not exactly in progress, but looking imminent. Men were peeping over the trenches—oblivious of the fact that I could look right in and drop bombs on them at will—ready to deal with an enemy who was creeping—or should have been creeping—gradually forward. Some poor fellows had fallen out of a box, apparently, for they were free from wounds—but as yet the Red Cross had not reached them. Big guns were in position, guns large enough to destroy all the contending armies with one shot, and all along the edge of the battle-ground—between this and the window—cavalry-men waited on prancing steeds for the order to advance. It was a wonderful sight for a youngster, and as I inspected the cause of Jimmy's changed tastes many other little Jimmies crowded round the window and directed operations with a confidence worthy of a General.

Father Christmas must have been very busy making munitions and raising troops this year, for Jim is a good sample of his generation.

In that case he would pay the penalty, and although tried for the alleged murder, he would, in fact, be punished for what he has done to further the revolution.

There is no doubt that was desired and planned by some one or more undertakings in Santohuk or elsewhere who tempted by the reward offered for the apprehension of the prisoner had concocted the whole story.

If they had succeeded in hoodwinking the Court of trial, and if the government their profit would, of course, have been very great.

I am satisfied that the prisoner has brought himself within the provisions of the latter part of 4 (f) of the Order.

GERMAN COMPETITION IN CHINA.

There has recently been issued an interesting memorandum prepared by Mr. C. A. W. Rose, Assistant British Commercial Attaché in China, on trade expansion in that country. It deals largely with the question of German competition, and discusses what immediate practical steps are possible for the improvement of British trade. In several directions Mr. Rose discusses our minds of certain preconceptions which had been very generally entertained as to the cause of Germany's commercial success in China. For example, it is often asserted that they obtain their advantage by allowing long credits and large commissions which are repugnant to British ideas of legitimate trade. Mr. Rose, who has had unusual opportunities of watching German firms at work with their normal trade, tells us he is convinced that the more successful do not encourage long credits, that their business is generally conducted on sound lines, and their success largely due to the fact that they do not lose money by giving credit without suitable security. He adds that they certainly cut rates and profits, and offer exceptional facilities to customers when they are breaking new ground or trying to capture a market, but that is no novelty in commercial campaigns. Further, they also pay commissions on machinery and Government contracts. Much, too, has been said concerning the support given to German traders by their Government. The contention is frequently put forth that German firms are state-aided, and that without such aid they would not be able to secure business. Here, again, Mr. Rose says that his experience of a large number of German business men in different parts of China has not proved them to be more anxious to enlist the sympathy or to court the interference of their officials than are British firms. In fact, he observes there is just as much comment among Germans as among Britons as to the support afforded to its national, by the Government of their rivals. On the other hand, he admits that in exceptional cases the facilities for financing are given by German industrial banks, but only after the most careful scrutiny of contracts by Consular officials. It would appear from all this that British traders in the past have been too prone to assume that the success of their German competitors was due to causes which were not available in their own case. Mr. Rose is, of course, speaking in a wide and general sense. In many known instances German traders in China have adopted methods to secure business which would certainly not be imitated by British business men. It is just as well, however, for the latter to realise that German success in China is due, in part, at any rate, to the enterprise of German firms and traders, who have made a study of the market and its requirements, and that there are many methods which they employ which might be profitably followed by British traders.

Mr. Rose briefly sets forth some of the German methods of conducting business in China, and a study of them should prove instructive to our own traders. It would appear, speaking generally, that German firms are prepared to take a great deal more trouble in unearthing business in China than their British competitors. For one thing they have realised the value of the great hinterland which lies beyond the coast ports. Mr. Rose tells us that when a proposed contract arises they go to the headquarters of industrial activity and suggest business to the men whom they already know. This, he says, is one of the factors making for success in opening up a conservative country such as China is. It is useless, adds Mr. Rose, to wait for demand to stimulate supply; in most cases the demand must be created, especially in such matters as installations of machinery and industrial undertakings. Thus Chinese business men who have returned to the interior from visits to the great ports and business centres of China are followed up, and the uses and financial advantages of the goods are explained and demonstrated to them in their own homes, and in this way business is obtained. Moreover, the German firm will be content with a small profit on the first contract with a view to future and bigger business.

Mr. Rose points out, however, that business in China must be very elastic. The country is too undeveloped for any great specialisation at present, and for many years to come it will not pay merchants to depend on large contracts. It should be noted, too, that the men who are doing the pioneering work for German firms are seldom specialists, for Mr. Rose holds that specialisation in men is as premature as it is in machinery in this great undeveloped area. The men who are succeeding are those with sound business instincts, with energy, with an all-round knowledge of their particular departments, and with a sense of responsibility. It will be seen, therefore, that to a considerable extent Germans have acquired business in China by patience, perseverance, and enterprise, and it is for British traders now to see whether they can adopt equally effective methods to improve British trade.—*London and China Express.*

GERMAN CONFESSION.

EVERYTHING READY FOR BIG RETREAT.
The *Ribe Stillestande*, the principal paper on the German frontier, whose excellent connections with German military circles have been repeatedly demonstrated, has received the following from a German officer who was present during the great French offensive in Champagne September 25-27:—

"The Germans in this fighting say the affair came within an ace of total disaster and were fully prepared to leave their second line. Their artillery was in a position to march off when the bombardment suddenly ceased. Had it lasted another two hours—the situation—which was then indescribably critical, would have developed into a complete rout, because the Germans were in a state of utter and unprecedented confusion and almost hors de combat."

"The sudden silence of their bombardment impressed everyone as a miraculous escape unparalleled in the annals of war."

BRITISH AND CHINESE CORPORATION.

IN SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

In the course of his address to the shareholders at the 17th annual meeting of the British and Chinese Corporation, Mr. C. C. Macrae said:—"At a time when as a consequence of the European conflict the business of the Corporation has been suspended owing to the prohibition against the issue of foreign loans in this country, the shareholders may legitimately congratulate themselves upon the policy so sedulously followed by their directors during the Corporation's good days. I refer to the careful building up of the financial strength of the Corporation to a point which renders it possible to continue the payment of a dividend upon the shares at the rate of 5 per cent. on the paid-up capital. In order to maintain the valuable contracts which the Corporation holds in suspense for the construction of the railways from Nanking to Hunan, and the completion of the Shanghai-Hangchow-Ningpo Line, it has been necessary to carry on by means of advances the construction and survey of these lines already commenced, since to have allowed them to drop would have resulted in the abandonment of the railways and the loss of the contracts. These advances amount to £308,777; they were made at a moderate rate of interest, and may be regarded as thoroughly well-secured as, by the terms of the loan agreement, they are repayable from the first proceeds of the loan when issued, the loan itself being guaranteed by the Chinese Government, and secured by mortgage on the railway. The depreciation in your investments, although very much less than in the case of other gilt-edged securities like consols, has nevertheless involved the writing down of these investments by £14,739, out of which has been provided for out of profits. The investments which now stand in our books at the prices ruling on June 30th are equal to £205,524, equivalent to a value of £8 per share on the paid up capital of the Corporation, and, taking our assets and liabilities as a whole, the result, if realised to-day would show a value of fully £10 per share. Moreover, it may be pointed out that as the great bulk of our investments are in government or municipal bonds repayable at par, there will probably be little on no loss to the Corporation in the long run, and that meantime there is no loss on interest received. At the present valuation these investments yield fully 6 per cent. I think you will all agree that this is a very sound financial position, and although the resumption of active business may be delayed, the Corporation can look forward with confidence to the future. The item showing the indebtedness of the Chinese Government to the Corporation for advances and interest is £34,177 higher than last year, £398,821 against £332,644, the result of the further advances made by the Corporation in the period under review. Against the full credit item of the amount owing to us, viz., £399,354, you will note on the opposite side of the account that our liabilities to creditors amount to £352,247, on the total of the two items entered on the debit side of the balance sheet as "Bills payable" and "Creditors and other outstanding accounts." This mainly arises from the fact I have already stated to you, namely, that in order to make the advances to the Chinese Government which we have felt compelled to do we have ourselves been obliged to borrow the moneys, as it has been impossible to float loans to provide them. The general reserve account stands at the same figure as before, £110,000, and the net result of the year is to leave a balance of the credit of profit and loss of £7,672, which added to the balance of £11,119, balance brought forward from last year, after deducting the dividend paid, enables us to recommend a dividend at the same rate, viz., 5 per cent. for the year, amounting to £19,541, and carry forward the balance £12,541. I now move that the report and accounts be adopted, and that a dividend of 5s. per share, free of income tax, be declared.

Sir Charles Addis seconded, and the resolution was carried.

DEAR CHRISTMAS PUDDING.

SHARP RISES IN PRICE OF FRUIT AND NUTS.

Christmas fare will cost the housewife at home more this year. Compared with a year ago, there is a sharp rise in the price of most of the raw materials of the Christmas dinner, including the plum pudding.

The following table, compiled from the catalogues of a large London stores, gives examples of prices last Christmas and now:—

	This Year.	Last Year
Sultanas, selected	11d.	7d.
Currais, selected	6d.	4d.
Raisins—		
Valencia, selected	10d.	6d.
Candied Peel:—		
Orange	7d.	6d.
Lemon	7d.	6d.
Citron	8d.	6d.
Nuts:—		
Almonds	10d.	8d.
Barcelona	6d.	5d.
Brails	10d., 1/-	6d., 10d.
Muscats:—		
Choice—clusters	1/-	6d.
Barcelona	6d.	5d.
Mandarines (doz)	1/- to 1/8	9d. to 1/6
Hams:—		
York, finest	1/3 to 1/5	1/2 to 1/4
Eggs:—		
Cooking (doz.)	3/6	1/9

MR. CARNEGIE AT EIGHTY.

BENEFICIARIES OF £200,000,000; NOW "ONLY MODERATELY RICH."

Mr. Carnegie recently celebrated his eightieth birthday. Mr. Smith Pritchett, president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, in the course of an interview, stated that Mr. Carnegie has given away in public and private benefactions a sum of no less than £200,000,000, and is now only a moderately rich man.

HONGKONG'S HUNDRED.
THE OFFICIAL REPLY.

(CONTINUED.)

The assurance of His Excellency the Governor of the Colony and the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce concerning the part which the young men of Hong Kong are playing in to-day's world drama must have given satisfaction to all who love the Empire. It is unfortunate that these explanations were not published earlier. Nothing is to be gained by keeping such matters more or less secret, and as this episode shows, a great deal of harm may be done. Many a local youth has suffered unjustly during the last few months. Firms have been assailed in semi-public places for offences of which they were innocent, because it never occurred to their patrons that anyone could possibly misunderstand them. Finally, we have waited until the eighteenth month of the war, until the fifth million of Britons has been called for, until many have gone who, perhaps, should have stayed behind; until innocent young men have suffered in silence; until a civilian, after great heart-searchings and with deep reluctance, has taken what he believes to be the only course possible—we have been waited for all this, I say, before official advice has been offered to those who wish to do everything possible for their country.

AN ACT OF COURTESY.

Whether it was the article "The Hong Kong Hundred" itself, or the comments on it by the Chairman of the local Chamber of Commerce, which led H.E. to take the very unusual action of personally writing a letter to the public Press is immaterial. What is of supreme importance is that the letter was written. That was an act of courtesy to the whole Colony. It was something else; it was statesmanship. It was worthy of one who, despite his real or supposed indifference to the opinions of others, has never flinched from doing what he conceived to be his duty. Since the outbreak of the war, the Colony's Governor has been in a position of grave responsibility and deep anxiety. Every intelligent citizen must have been forced into admiration by the calm dignity of his attitude during these troublous times. Some of us can only guess dimly at the dangers and difficulties which each day has brought. What we do know is that the traditions of a great office have been maintained. We feel that it is an enormous national asset, in these critical times, to have, as our titular head, a man of high character, unswerving devotion to duty and unimpeachable integrity.

It was, therefore, with a flush of sincere satisfaction that your contributor read His Excellency's letter. The stern and, as I believe, wholly undeserved rebuke which was included in it, did not mar the main thesis. All that matters now is that we have the truth at last.

Your correspondent willingly offers an expression of regret to those young men whom he appears to have misjudged. He pleads the following reasons for his foolish but sincere opinions. Firstly, as a civilian he has had great provocation from military men who wish to leave Hong Kong for the front. Secondly, the unfortunate official reticence. Thirdly, the definite cases of young men who, he knew, could have been spared. Fourthly, the frequently repeated opinions of other citizens of the Colony.

The official explanations now make it possible to regard all the young men with respect. If, as the letter seems to imply, His Excellency informs the young men of this Colony that they are doing all that the local Government expects of them, then no blame attaches itself to them for going on with their usual daily work. A chivalrous desire to protect subordinates, such as we should expect from His Excellency, will not, it may be hoped, lead to any cessation of investigation of individual cases. It will now be quite easy for a youth to say "I want to do more than I am now doing, but the authorities won't let me." We must accept that. But it is only a transference of moral responsibility from the young unmarried men to the Government of the Colony. The public will now watch with anxiety not the young men, but the Government.

THE POLICY OF SILENCE.

Why was it necessary to allow public opinion to be in error for so long? Why was not a public statement made months ago on this vital matter? Some young men and certain of the police seemed to have had every encouragement to go to the front. Many of us have been bewildered. Some have said "Go," and others have said "Wait and See." The *Daily Press* recently published a leading article which offered a splendid opportunity for an official statement. It was ignored. A regular, who read the leader, said some caustic things about the honour of Hong Kong. Rightly or wrongly, your correspondent regards the Colony as a city which is his home. He was determined to bring things to a crisis. He succeeded. He does not expect to be thanked; but he will not accept, silently, the blame due to others. He performed what was to him a most distasteful public duty. He had nothing to gain. He has lost a great deal of valuable time in devising, and carrying out, a scheme which has been efficacious. He can only regret that it was necessary to write, as he frankly stated, bitterly. Any other style would have been indeed already had been ignored. His labours, while involving censure, have

really been justified by the results obtained. It is always easy to let things slide; but it is not always honest so to do. It was an anonymous correspondent in the *Times*, who exposed the shabby scandal. Public opinion cannot be disregarded as matters of national interest. It was Lecky who wrote "The public opinion of the nation will inevitably inspire and control its statesmen. It creates in all countries an ethical code which, with greater or less perfection, marks out for them the path of duty, and, though a great statesman may do something to raise its level, he can never wholly escape its influence." The history of the war, so far as Great Britain is concerned, shows quite plainly that public opinion has usually been in advance of official imagination.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

There is but little opportunity, now, to deal with the letter from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. It is a valuable contribution. It should help to bring about registration in the Colony; as first suggested by this writer. It should aid in the liberation of certain forces for the front. It is admirable in every sense, but for one possibility. It must not let us lose a sense of proportion. For more years than he cares to contemplate your contributor has closely studied problems of British trade—especially the Far Eastern trade. He would not be very proud of his "nation of shopkeepers" if he were not fully aware of all the "silver bullet" arguments for winning this war. He ventures to suggest that they are a little out-of-date. He accepted them in toto a year ago when they were formulated by the statesmen and the public at home. He is now not altogether unaware of a rather changed not in the utterances of statesmen and in the press of Great Britain. He heard of the need of "silver bullets," before we heard about the shortage of high explosives and the call for the fifth million for the army. It isn't that the "silver bullets" are not still needed. It is that, as far as your contributor can judge, men and munitions are wanted more.

A population of, say, fifty millions in the old country is mobilising for active service between four and five million men. In addition, it has supplied a host of munition workers. It seems almost as if one in ten of the population of Great Britain has been called from the loom, or the counter, or the plough, to enrol for other work directly connected with the war. Their pieces have been filed, somehow or other by the aged, the women and the boys. It is at least worthy of a close investigation as to whether, out here, some such change is possible. The words "convenient" and "inconvenient" are not to be considered in this hour of world agony.

The British Empire, in this crisis, has been wonderful. It has amazed even those who most ardently believed in it. It has succeeded in this terrible struggle because of the amazing self-sacrifice which it has inspired. Its statesmen, its business men, its intellectual leaders who, in the Press or on the spot, influence public opinion, have risen superbly to this epoch-making occasion. The path of duty has not been smooth but millions have patiently trodden it. It may almost seem an impertinence to compare our little Colony to this wonderful realisation which is saving the soul of the world. Yet we are blood-brothers to those who have given all that we may not be in bondage. We are a microcosm of Empire. The young men and the old men of the Colony must also search their hearts daily with the question "What is my duty?"

On the Peak there is a road named after a very great man who taught and inspired local patriotism long before he spoke of Imperial problems. Chamberlain is dead, but he lives still in our memories. Dear to him was the city he loved; he first did for that what his destiny enabled him to do for an Empire. We, too, in our own little sphere, must attempt to do what we conceive to be our duty, whatever the sorrow, whatever the trouble, whatever the dangers. Thus can we prove ourselves citizens of no mean city. For so he taught us.

CRICKET.

CLUB v. KOWLOON.

The match between these old rivals was commenced on Christmas day afternoon and will be continued to-day. Kowloon opened the batting, and thanks to consistent scoring by W. Wright, Thurfield, Macaskill and Braga were able to put together 165. The "tail" was very weak, and fell easy victims to Bird's "googlies." The Club, judging by the scores to date, may be able to take the lead to-day, though this will depend on the abilities of the last six batsmen, who have to meet a by no means simple attack. When play closed on Saturday the scores were as follows:

A. A. CHARTERIS (left-handed batsman)				
A. A. Charteris, c. Pearce, b. Anderson	5			
M. Wright, c. Gace, b. Maas	47			
J. V. Braga, c. Donnelly, b. Bird	23			
N. M. Macaskill, c. Donnelly, b. Anderson	28			
Major Robertson, c. Anderson, b. Bird	4			
R. P. Thurfield, c. Gace, b. Maas	37			
E. B. Reed, c. Muriel, b. Maas	0			
J. P. Robinson, c. Braga, b. Bird	0			
H. H. Taylor, c. Pearce, b. Bird	0			
Dr. Forsyth, c. Pearce, b. Bird	0			
W. Kay, not out	11			
Extras	11			
Total	165			

Bowling Analysis.				
Bird	O.	M.	R.	W.
Anderson	8	0	43	2
Brada	4	0	16	0
Donnelly	4	0	18	0
Maas	2	0	14	3

CLUB.				
T. E. Pearce, c. Braga, b. Macaskill	36			
R. O. Hutchison, c. Macaskill, b. Reed	32			
H. E. Muriel, c. Kay	10			
E. J. R. Mitchell, b. Reed	1			
R. N. Anderson, not out	4			
R. O. Brand, b. Reed	4			
Extras	6			
Total (for 5 wickets)	106			
M. Maas, c. L. Gace, b. Kennedy	1			
M. E. O. Bird, and D. E. Donnelly, to bat				

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

In his capacity as the Chairman of the Licensing Board, the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn has challenged a statement that public business at the meeting of that body on December 4th was transacted in private. "No business," he says, "was transacted after the representatives of the Press had left." It is to be regretted, however, that he offers no explanation of the fate of the letter, which, the agenda announced, had been received from the Colonial Secretary "with reference to the licences of the Grand and Peak Hotels." As it was not dealt with at the next meeting on the 20th inst., are we to assume that it is still awaiting consideration? That it was of no "public interest" seems scarcely possible in view of all that has happened in connection with those licences. Perhaps, Mr. Severn meant that it was of no "public concern"—a distinction with a difference, which those acquainted with the Law of Libel have learned to appreciate.

Christmastide in the Colony passed off very peacefully in much the same way as in previous years. The weather was ideal, and led one away from the fireside to the open air. As early as 8 a.m. Happy Valley presented quite an animated scene with its golfers and equestrians. In the afternoon golf, cricket, football, tennis and even baseball were being played there simultaneously. Everybody seemed to be out and about, thoroughly enjoying the fresh air and sunshine. There must have been many keen appetites when the Christmas dinner was served.

There is joy in the canine heart at last over the removal of the muzzling regulations, and it found expression in some quarters with "carols" the night long. On any other occasion one would have been tempted to disperse the glee party with a shot gun, but the heart rebelled at the thought of this in the presence of so much genuine thanksgiving for liberty regained after almost two years spent in wire entanglements. Many old scores will be paid off, no doubt, when the festive season has passed. There are quite a number of big dogs in the Colony who have been longing for the dawn of freedom and the opportunity to take sweet revenge for the tantalising pride of the Poms who have found immunity from muzzles in the arms of their fair owners. If the little dogs who lost their heads at their good fortune are not careful they may now lose their lives.

The policeman whose mission in life it was to stalk unmuzzled dogs on the Peak will feel, perhaps, that his glory has departed, and the shopkeepers who survey their stocks of new-fangled facial adornments hanging headless on the wall will lament the change. But it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and the withdrawal of the muzzling order will be regarded as a welcome Christmas gift by the owners of our canine friends, many of whom have had quite formidable monthly bills to meet at the Magistracy on account of the originality and resourcefulness displayed by their pets in freeing themselves from the irritating wire contraptions which spoilt their outlook on the world.

Cannot something be done to mitigate the evil smells which greet one when passing along the Praya in the Wanchai district? The sanitary arrangements hereabouts would do justice to the era of Adam, the people themselves never worry their heads about regulations, and consequently, Wanchai has become one of the most obnoxious corners of the Colony. Now that the cold weather has set in I recommend somebody connected with the Sanitary Board to take a constitutional in the neighbourhood and test the accuracy of my statements.

I was not a little amused at the ingenuously displayed by two of the newspapers of the Colony in their anxiety to avoid mentioning the name of the *Daily Press*, in the questions put by the Hon. Mr. Holyoak at the last meeting of the Legislative Council. One wrote the first part of the question, which contained the offending words, and quoted the remainder, while another slyly printed daily press without capitals, inverted commas or italics. Such devices, I thought, belonged to the *Zalenski Gazette* days. That they should be adopted is, of course, a compliment to this newspaper, which is too well-known to need advertisement from its contemporaries, but I acknowledge, none the less, the more courageous conduct of the *Telegraph*.

ROMANUS RAMON.

CHRISTMAS IN HONGKONG.

Christmas was observed in much the usual manner in Hongkong. The brilliant weather that prevailed induced the vast majority to indulge in various outdoor pleasures. Golfers in large numbers invaded the links at Fanling, Happy Valley, and Deep Water Bay. Many residents rode to the last-named place by motor-car, the drive over the new and excellent road from Aberdeen being very pleasant. Enthusiastic pedestrians were also to be met quite frequently in the many beautiful roads and lanes in the Colony.

CHURCH SERVICES.

The services at the various religious institutions were very well attended. There were four celebrations of Holy Communion at St. John's Cathedral on Christmas morning, the number of communicants being very satisfactory. The Bishop of Victoria was the celebrant at the service at 7.45 a.m. The Rev. V. H. Copley Moyle (Chaplain of the Cathedral) was the preacher at the eleven o'clock service, which was attended by a large congregation. The Cathedral choir sang the anthem "O Zion that bringest glad tidings."

The Cathedral was effectively decorated with palms, ferns, and plants. The following ladies of the congregation were responsible for carrying out this work:—Mesdames Wakeman, Copley Moyle, Ram, Pattenden, Marriott, Looker, Taylor, H. Hancock, and Newall, Misses Barrow and Gorham. The usual collection for the Diocesan Girls' School and Orphanage was taken up at this service, and realised over \$200.

The Rev. Copley Moyle conducted the Holy Communion service at the Peak Church on Christmas morning. The communicants numbered about 50. The tasteful decoration of the Church was the work of Mesdames Pamfret and Hornby.

The Bishop of Victoria preached an excellent sermon at St. Andrew's Church, Kowloon, on Christmas Day. The Church had been prettily adorned by the following ladies:—Mesdames N. C. Pope, Packham, Christian, Martin, Stone, Richardson, and S. E. Green, Misses Creed, Robson, Neave and Jessie Jack.

The service at the Union Church was conducted by the Minister (Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald).

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES.

At the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception the usual midnight Patriarchal Mass was conducted by His Lordship Bishop Pozzani, with the assistance of the vicar of the Cathedral and the local clergy. The main altar was richly dressed, and was surmounted with huge ornamental candles, palms, and flowers. The church was illuminated by electricity and the congregation was exceedingly large, not a seat was left vacant. The Music of Dixie was well executed by the Orchestra Philharmonica and the members of the Choir, consisting of the following gentlemen:—Messrs. A. F. Omond, E. G. d'Aguiño, F. X. Botelho, F. Fisher, M. H. Baptista, and the boys of St. Joseph's College.

A Special Crib was erected on one of the side altars in which Jesus, the newly-born Child, with the Holy Parents, and Shepherds were exposed for public veneration. The "Adagio Fidelis" was sweetly intoned by one of the sopranos, and by a powerful chorus.

On Xmas Day a solemn High Mass was conducted by the Rev. Fr. Agostini Plazek (rector), with a large congregation. The beautiful little church was very tastefully decorated with a profusion of candles, flowers and palms.

The Mass commenced at 10 o'clock in the morning, and the music was classic and excellently executed by the Orchestra Philharmonica and the choir. Maestro Vasallo conducting. The following are the names of the ladies and gentlemen forming the choir:—Mrs. Carroll, the Misses Conway, Barrington, Braga, and 2 Misses Stoneham; Messrs. A. Lyth, J. Laing, F. Fisher and W. Carroll.

A beautiful little crib, illuminated by electricity, was placed at the Epistle side.

RUSSIA'S NEW NORTHERN PORT.

According to the Christiania correspondent of *Le Temps*, the principal Norwegian steamship company announces the opening of a regular line of steamers between the ports of Norway and the bay of Kola, in Russian Lapland, which is going to be the northern terminus of the new railway joining Petrograd to the part of the Arctic Ocean always free from ice. *Le Temps* says that the opening of this line certainly indicates that transport by railway is going to be carried on without interruption, or has already probably begun, from the north coast of Russia to Petrograd.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

(ESTABLISHED 1850.)

TELEPHONE 1741.

HAVE A LARGE SELECTION OF THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN INDOOR AND OUTDOOR GAMES WAR GAMES. TABLE GOLF. RACE GAMES. ETC.

INSTRUCTIVE

FOR BOYS & GIRLS.

TOYS BABY DOLLS USEFUL PRESENTS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS. TABLE DELICACIES CRACKERS. OPEN TILL 6 P.M. ON XMAS WEEK.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

[23]

MILD—COOL—FRAGRANT.

ROSITA

One of the Best Cigars of the East. Made of the finest selected SUMATRA TOBACCO by experienced workmen.

ONE TRIAL makes you a Customer.

TINNED BOXES OF 50 CIGARS \$4.25.

Obtainable at:

THE HONGKONG CIGAR STORE.
A. S. WATSON & CO.

GRAECO-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE.
SHERIFF & BROS., 30, QUEEN'S RD. CENTL.

SOLE IMPORTER:

WILLEM HEYBLOM,
POWELL'S BUILDINGS,

PHONE: 1687.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1915.

[1178]

TO BE SHOT AT SUNRISE

would seem a welcome relief to many who suffer the red hot pain thrusts of neuralgia. These are the hopeless torture-wracked beings who live in the shadow of constant dread of the stabbing, twisting, unbearable sudden pains and spasms of neuralgia.

LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM has relieved and cured countless thousands of cases of neuralgia. Rheumatism, sciatica, sprains, strains, swelling, chest pains, backaches, earaches, toothaches and all other painful external maladies must also go.

It has cured so many others—it will do the same for you.

Sold at 1s. 4d. per bottle.
Agents for Hongkong:—
Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.
[1050-25]

NOW READY.

DIRECTORY OF PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES

CHINA, JAPAN AND COREA.
HONGKONG DAILY PRESS OFFICE

Prices:
Cloth Cover \$1.25
Paper 0.80
Hongkong, 21st December, 1915.

ASAHI BEER.

DAI NIPPON BREWERY



CO. TOKIO JAPAN.

OBTAINABLE EVERYWHERE.

SOLE AGENTS:

YITSU BUSSAN KAISHA.
HONGKONG.

[1231]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

THE NATIONAL LOAN OF THE THIRD YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1914),
\$16,000,000 AND SUPPLEMENTARY ISSUE OF \$8,000,000,
AND
THE NATIONAL LOAN OF THE FOURTH YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (1915),
\$24,000,000.

SUBSCRIBERS to the above TWO LOANS are hereby notified that the interest instalments for the month of December, each amounting to Dollars One Hundred and Twenty Thousand (\$120,000)—\$240,000 in all—have been duly received by the Undersigned and brought to Loan Service Account.
F. A. AGLEN,
Inspector General of Customs,
and Vice-Chairman of the Bureau of National Loans.
Inspectorate General of Customs,
Peking, 15th December, 1915. [1329]

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.
NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBRO, HULL, LONDON, GENOA, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"GLENLOGAN,"
Captain H. J. Hende sup., having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on FRIDAY, 31st inst., at 10 A.M.
All Claims must be presented within FIFTEEN DAYS of the Steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognized.
No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 1st Jan., 1916, will be subject to rent.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1915. [1330]

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

XMAS HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 27th inst.
By Order,
A. H. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1915. [1326]

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

XMAS HOLIDAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 27th inst.
By Order,
A. H. LOWE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1915. [1327]

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

THE COMMITTEE has decided that the following shall be the Settlement Days for the year 1916:—

FRIDAY,	28th January.
MONDAY,	28th February.
WEDNESDAY,	29th March.
THURSDAY,	27th April.
TUESDAY,	30th May.
WEDNESDAY,	28th June.
FRIDAY,	28th July.
TUESDAY,	20th August.
THURSDAY,	25th September.
FRIDAY,	27th October.
TUESDAY,	24th November.
FRIDAY,	22nd December.

By Order of the Committee,
EDWARD M. RAYMOND,
Honorary Secretary,
HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1915. [1300]

G. R.
PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS of the letting by Public Auction Sale, to be held on MONDAY, the 3rd day of January, 1916, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the Governor, of Two Lots of CROWN LAND above Kennedy Road and South of T.L. 1216, Robinson Road respectively, in the Colony of Hongkong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at CROWN RENTS to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty the King, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOTS.

No. of Lots	Boundary Measurements (Approximate)	Contents (Approximate)	Area (Approximate)	Unit Price
1	Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.	Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.	Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.	Lot 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

INTIMATIONS

BOXING-DAY FOOTBALL

AN EXHIBITION FOOTBALL MATCH will be played on the ground of the Hongkong F.C. TO-DAY (MONDAY), the 27th inst., between teams selected from the MILITARY (Red) and THE REST (Black). Kick-off, 3 P.M. All profits accruing will be devoted to the TOBACCO AND CIGARETTE FUND for the Troops at the Front.
W. V. PENNELL,
Hon. Secretary, Football Association.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1915. [1325]

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

COMPETITIONS will be held over the FANLING Course TO-DAY (MONDAY), 27th December, as follows:—

MORNING—18 Holes Bogey Competition under Handicap. Entrance fee \$1.00.
AFTERNOON—Mixed Foursomes Competition 18 holes Medal play under Handicap. Competitors must choose their own partners and opponents.

Entries can be made on the board in the Club Houses at HAPPY VALLEY and FANLING and in the HONGKONG CLUB, or may be sent in writing to the Undersigned, care of Messrs. BRADLEY & Co., Ltd.
Entrance fee \$2.00 per couple.
T. W. HILL,
Acting Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 15th December, 1915. [1325]

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

MIXED FOURSOMES COMPETITION, TO-DAY (MONDAY), DECEMBER 27TH.

IN connection with the above Competition, a Special Train (in addition to the 11.25 A.M. Train) will leave KOWLOON on December 27th, at 11.10 A.M. (last ferry 10.55 A.M.) and is timed to reach SHEUNG SHUI at 11.45 A.M. There will be accommodation for 50 passengers only.

T. W. HILL,
Acting Hon. Secretary.
Hongkong, 23rd December, 1915. [1319]

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

Payment of Final Dividend on Shares for the year ending 30th June, 1915.

THE Board having declared a FINAL DIVIDEND of 5% (five per cent) free of Income Tax, for the year ending 30th June 1915, holders of Bearer Shares and holders of Dividend Warrants received from London on account of Registered Shares, will be paid their dividend on presenting No. 6 Coupon of the Bearer Shares, and Dividend Warrants on Registered Shares, to either of the following Banks at Shanghai or Tientsin:—
THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA & CHINA.
THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.
THE BANQUE BELGE POUR L'ETRANGER.
The payments will be made in either Dollars or Taels as the holder may wish, at the buying rate of exchange of the day.
GENERAL MANAGER,
KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1915. [1313]

NOTICE.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CERTIFICATE No. 319, dated 25th September, 1883, of Fifty Shares Nos. 9311-9360 in this Company, standing in the name of Mr. WEL A KWONG, of Hongkong, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of One Month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming another Certificate will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.
Dated 13th November, 1915.
C. PEMBERTON,
Secretary. [1277]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

APPLICATION has been made to this Company to issue Duplicate Certificates of 50 Shares in this Company in the name of Mr. ARTHUR ROBERT DONNELLY, or other Certificate or Certificates in lieu thereof upon Statement that the Original Certificate No. 9519-50 Shares numbered 234577/234620 dated 21st February, 1910, has been LOST or DESTROYED; and NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that if within 30 days from the date hereof no claim or representation in respect of such Original Certificate is made to the Company the undersigned will then proceed to deal with such application for duplicate.
For the GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.,
SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 14th December, 1915. [1275]

TO LET.

NO. 5, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PEAK.
No. 2, ZETLAND STREET.
No. 25, SHELLY STREET.
No. 25, SHELMOUR ROAD, WOODLANDS VILLA WEST.
No. 58, PEEL STREET, on Cairne Road level.
GLENSHIEL, No. 141, Fl. station Road, Peak, from 1st November, 1915.
"LEWENOR," No. 128, THE PEAK.
"HARTING," Austin Road, Kowloon.
ONE OFFICE or SHOP in Duddell Street, Ground Floor.
No. 3, "THE ALBANY."
ROOMS in Duddell Street.
"ROSEBATH," 2, Hankow Rd., Kowloon.
No. 6, BELILIOS TERRACE.
No. 25, BELILIOS TERRACE, with entrance on Conduit Road.
ONE GODOWN, No. 8, Burrows Street, Wanchai.
TWO GODOWNS in Duddell Street.
No. 2, DES VOUX VILLAS, ST. PEAK (Unfurnished).
No. 59, THE PEAK (CAMERON VILLAS).
Apply to—**LINSTEAD & DAVIS.**
2nd Floor, Alexandra Building.
Hongkong, 8th December, 1915. [1275]

TO LET.

BERGELDIE," 135, THE PEAK About March, or sooner if convenient.
Apply to—**A. RITCHIE.**
Care of Messrs. DODWELL & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 10th November, 1915. [1183]

TO LET.

FROM 1st MARCH.
Apply to—**A. B. AYASIA.**
Care of E. PARANBY,
No. 1, Duddell Street.
Hongkong, 2nd February, 1915. [1244]

WANTED.

DAILY or Resident NURSE for two Children at the Peak. Apply by letter enclosing copies of testimonials to—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
Hongkong, 10th November, 1915. [1164]

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

TWO HOUSES in "STONEHENGE," No. 5, Robinson Road, Newly done-up and remodelled.
Each House contains desirable Two Good Rooms and upstairs Three Bedrooms, each with Bathroom.
Outhouses and Grass Tennis Court. Shortly available for occupation.
Apply to—**DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd.**
Hongkong, 22nd December, 1915. [1313]

TO LET—FURNISHED.

NO. 51 CONDUIT ROAD, 3 Rooms, 4 Baths, & 6, Ample Servants' Quarters, Two Tennis Courts. From 1st of March to end of year.
Apply to—**COLBOURNE LITTLE,**
18 Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1915. [1207]

TO LET.

OFFICES in Queen's Building.
Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**
Hongkong, 8th December, 1915. [1361]

TO LET.

NOS. 11 and 13, GAGE STREET, from 1st January, 1916.
Apply to—**J. VINCENT BRAGA,**
Toyo Kisha Kaisha.
Hongkong, 18th November, 1915. [1100]

TO LET.

NOS. 9 and 10, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PEAK.
Apply to—**M. J. D. STEPHENS.**
Hongkong, 19th November, 1915. [1170]

TO LET.

"THE KENNELS," 168, Magazine Gap. Thoroughly renovated and repaired.
Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**
Hongkong, 10th November, 1915. [1168]

TO LET.

RAVENSHILL EAST, Park Road, containing 6 Rooms, 3 Bath Rooms, Servants' Quarters, &c. Vacant 1st November.
Apply to—**DEACON, LOCKER, DEACON & HARTSON.**
Hongkong, 19th October, 1915. [1094]

TO LET.

"GLENSHIEL," No. 141, Fl. station Road, Peak, from 1st November, 1915.
Apply to—**LINSTEAD & DAVIS.**
Hongkong, 18th October, 1915. [1089]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in Kowloon Terrace, Kowloon.
Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**
Hongkong, 24th October, 1915. [45]

TO LET.

OFFICES in St. George's BUILDING, Second Floor, Overlooking Harbour, immediate possession.
Apply to—**SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.**
Hongkong, 3rd December, 1915. [39]

TO LET.

OFFICES in King's Buildings.
HOUSES in Des Vaux Road Central.
HOUSES in CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.
NEW HOUSES in Broadwood Terrace.
HOUSES at the Peak.
No. 1, MORETON TERRACE, Causeway Bay.
GODOWNS, at Wanchai.
Nos. 1, 2 and 3, WEST END TERRACE, CANTON.
Apply to—**THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd.**
Hongkong, 4th November, 1915. [33]

TO LET.

THREE-ROOMED FLATS in Humphrey's Buildings, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED FLATS in May Road, with every modern convenience, including English Baths and Kitchen Ranges, Hot Water and Water Carriage System. A few flats specially designed to accommodate three bedrooms at reasonable rentals. Immediate possession.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon.
Apply to—**HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd.**
Alexandra Building.
Hongkong, 26th November, 1915. [1177]

TO LET—FULLY FURNISHED.

"BERGELDIE," 135, THE PEAK About March, or sooner if convenient.
Apply to—**A. RITCHIE.**
Care of Messrs. DODWELL & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 10th November, 1915. [1183]

TO LET.

FROM 1st MARCH.
Apply to—**A. B. AYASIA.**
Care of E. PARANBY,
No. 1, Duddell Street.
Hongkong, 2nd February, 1915. [1244]

WANTED.

DAILY or Resident NURSE for two Children at the Peak. Apply by letter enclosing copies of testimonials to—
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
Hongkong, 10th November, 1915. [1164]

INTIMATION

WINES AND SPIRITS

ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

CASE No. 1—\$20.

2 Bottles St. Estephe Claret.
2 Bottles Sherry, Light Dry.
2 Bottles Port, Superior Light Invalid.
2 Bottles Gin.
1 Bottle Superior Old Liqueur Cognac.
1 Bottle Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky.
1 Bottle Dewar's Scotch Whisky.
1 Bottle Creme de Menthe.

CASE No. 2—\$26.

1 Bottle St. Marcoux Champagne.
1 Bottle Sparkling Burgundy.
2 Bottles Claret, St. Estephe.
1 Bottle Sherry, Superior Pale Dry, D Quality.
1 Bottle Port, Superior Light Invalid.
1 Bottle Superior Old Liqueur Cognac.
1 Bottle Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky.
1 Bottle Dewar's Scotch Whisky.
1 Bottle Gin.
1 Bottle Creme de Menthe.

CASE No. 3—\$30.

2 Bottles St. Marcoux Champagne.
1 Bottle Sherry Superior Pale Dry, D Quality.
2 Bottles Port, Superior Light Invalid.
1 Bottle Very Fine Old Brown Brandy.
1 Bottle Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky.
1 Bottle Dewar's Scotch Whisky.
2 Bottles Claret, St. Estephe.
1 Bottle Creme de Menthe.

SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

BIRTH.

DODWELL—On Christmas morning, at 108, the Peak, to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. DODWELL—a daughter.
[1288]
HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VOUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 27th DECEMBER, 1915.

DURATION OF THE WAR.

In spite of peace rumours, the probability of the war being brought to an end in the near future grows more remote as the struggle continues. Even Lord KITCHENER's three years' now begin to seem too short a period in which to conclude such a gigantic struggle, although the enormous expense must inevitably act as a brake on the continuance of hostilities. Britain fought NAPOLEON on and off for twenty years, during which her sacrifices were enormous. But, however enormous they were they do not approach those of the present war. A twenty years' war between first-class Powers is now impossible; even a seven years' war, such as Frederick the Great fought, is almost outside the pale of possibility. If Frederick the Great had been of a less obstinate nature and had exercised less personal magnetism he would never have been able to continue his war for seven years in the face of misery and devastation. His descendant who occupies to-day the Prussian Throne may have inherited some of his ancestor's dogged spirit, and, seeing ruin in defeat, may carry on the conflict to the last ditch and the last man, with the desperation of the gambler. The possibility of there being a chance of escape has lured many people to plunge further into ruin. Certainly there are at present no indications that Germany is inclined to offer reasonable terms of peace—that is to say, terms of peace on the basis of the establishment of the status quo ante; even if the Allies were inclined to accept them.
The British Government has lately expressed its willingness to consider any terms of peace which Germany may care to bring forward, but such consideration

can only be in conjunction with the Allied Powers and what the Allies as a whole are prepared to accept may differ very considerably from what each of them would accept individually. One of the first terms must be the restitution to Belgium of its independence. Even if the other Allies were juke-warm over this, Britain could not consent to any peace terms which did not include it. Would Germany accept this? We are inclined to think she would, in spite of the talk of annexation and of the desire for harbours on the North Sea coast. If Germany had been as successful as she intended—if she had captured Paris and destroyed the Russian army—she might have persisted in her occupation of Belgium. But her success has been so partial—and, indeed, if we come down to facts, confined to the conquering of small States like Belgium and Serbia—that she will be more likely to listen to reason on this matter. The question of an indemnity to Belgium is a much more difficult point. It may be doubted if, at the present stage, Germany would, even for a moment, consider such a suggestion, her attitude being that Belgium has brought her ruin on herself by her unavailing opposition to the invading host. Yet the restitution of Belgium independence without any compensation for the losses she has suffered is unthinkable. It would be another precedent for the abuse of power to pass unpenalised. If Belgium comes first, Serbia comes second, then Russia would have the chief voice, and Russia would never consent to Serbia losing her independence and forming part of the Austrian Empire, as is, presumably, proposed by the Central Powers. Russia passed over the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina because she was not then in a position to do anything else, but, as she took up arms for Serbia, she could not lay them down with Serbian independence destroyed. As Russia has also pledged her word as to the independence of Poland, she could not allow Germany to retain possession of the province. As to the other Powers, the withdrawal of the German troops from French territory would follow from the relinquishment of Belgium, but what demands would France make in regard to Alsace-Lorraine? To the people of France it would seem that they had fought in vain if Alsace and Lorraine remained in German hands, but to Germany the cession of what is regarded as German territory would be unbearable. Only a severe defeat would make such a sacrifice possible. Italy would claim a piece of Austrian territory and Japan the transference of the lease of Tsingtau, neither of which claims would probably cause much difficulty. In the German colonies which Great Britain has occupied she has hoisted the British flag and given every evidence that she intends to stay. Is the war to close without any compensation to her for the lives of her best sons and the dissipation of enormous wealth? It might, perhaps, be possible to arrange for the return of the German colonies in part, but their complete restoration is out of the question.

The peace terms which Germany would have to offer in order to gain the ear of the Allies are thus very onerous. They include most certainly the relinquishment of all the territory her troops have occupied; and they probably include the payment of an indemnity, the cession of territory and the loss of a portion of her colonies. Such terms would be a bitter pill for Germany to swallow, and would be equivalent to a defeat. Yet nothing less could be entertained. The probability of Germany bringing forward any acceptable peace terms is, therefore, very remote. She must suffer some severe reverses before her spirit is sufficiently subdued to make her recognise that she is attempting the impossible, and it seems hopeless to expect that any such reverses can be inflicted for some time to come.

A mail for Europe via Siberia closes to-morrow at 3 p.m.

Engine-room Artificer Manley was taken on board H.M.S. Tamar at 8 o'clock yesterday morning suffering from acute heart trouble, and died a quarter of an hour later.

Mr. E. N. Monie of the International Bank and late of the Shanghai Scottish Bank has received a commission as 2nd Lieutenant in the 13th Reserve Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment.

Second Lieut. Anderson, 1/4th Lincoln Regiment (T.F.), was killed at the front between October 11th and 13th. The deceased used to be manager of Devon Estate, Malacca. He left there shortly before war broke out and enlisted almost at once.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board is called for Wednesday. The agenda contains purely formal business.

The Rev. Father Watson has been appointed an Army Chaplain, and is now at the front, attached to the 99th Field Ambulance. He wishes all his old friends at Hongkong a Happy New Year.

A War Office telegram has been received announcing that Mr. Francis Horace Baker, of the firm of Messrs. Ewens and Needham, solicitors, of Hongkong, has been granted a commission as temporary 2nd Lieutenant G.R.A. with the effect from the 23rd inst.

We regret to learn that a fatal accident befell Private Penfold, R. M. L. I., on Christmas night. It seems that the unfortunate man fell from the Admiral's signal tower on to a roof and rolled off that into the street below, sustaining multiple injuries to which he succumbed in the early hours of yesterday morning at the Naval Hospital.

Mr. Philip W. Sergeant, a former editor of this paper, has completed an edition of "Morphy's Games of Chess," which Messrs. Bell are publishing at 5s. net. A careful selection of 300 games has been made, and these have been comprehensively analysed by Mr. Sergeant in the light of the best international criticism. The book also includes a new biography of Morphy by Mr. Sergeant.

There quietly passed away on 24th inst. in Hyderabad, Sind, a most successful Indian merchant, Mr. Wassiamull Asomull, at the ripe age of 85. The deceased who came to China over 55 years ago, established firms here and in Japan, India, Europe and Africa. He was universally admired for his philanthropy and business acumen. He leaves behind him a host of descendants, and friends and admirers, to mourn his loss. —Contributed.

THE KING'S GREETING TO HIS FORCES.

OUR GOAL DRAWS NEARER INTO SIGHT.

The following message has been received from His Majesty the King and forwarded to us for publication by H.E. the General Officer Commanding the Troops in China, Major-General F. Ventris:—

"Another Christmas finds all the resources of the Empire still engaged in war, and I desire to convey on my behalf, and on behalf of the Queen, a heartfelt Christmas greeting and our good wishes for the New Year to all who, on sea and land, are upholding the honour of the British name."

"In the officers and men of my Navy on whom the security of the Empire depends, I repose, in common with all my subjects, a trust that is absolute."

"On the officers and men of my Armies, whether now in France, in the East, or in other fields, I rely with an equal faith, confident that their devotion, their valour, and their self-sacrifice will, under God's guidance, lead to victory and an honourable peace."

"There are many of their comrades now, also, in hospital and to these brave men, also, I desire, with the Queen, to express our deep gratitude and our earnest prayers for their recovery."

THE WAR.

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

WAR'S HEAVY TOLL.

RUSSIANS ROUT ENEMY.

LULL IN THE WEST.

RUSSIA AND PEACE RUMOURS.

NEW DEVELOPMENT IN BALKAN SITUATION.

ITALIAN NAVAL ACTIVITY.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH ARTILLERY ACTIVE.

PARIS, December 25th.

To-day's communiqué says there is nothing of importance to report. The British report artillery activity near Ypres yesterday.

LONDON, December 25th.

An official despatch from the British Headquarters in France on the 24th says: artillery activity on both sides continued to-day, mainly about Ypres.

LIVELY ARTILLERY DUELS.

PARIS, December 26th.

A communiqué states that an artillery duel has been most active in the Lombard-ryde region, in Belgium and the Vosges. The enemy fruitlessly bombarded our positions, north of Hartmanns Weilerkopf. Our guns did much damage in Artois and in Champagne. The evening communiqué says there has been a lively artillery duel in Belgium, where German infantry, concentrated in communication trenches at Lombard-ryde were dispersed. The French artillery was likewise active further south, demolishing German works.

FUTILE ENEMY ATTACK IN VOSGES.

PARIS, December 25th.

The evening communiqué says that the Germans, after a violent bombardment, launched an attack on the whole new French line between the summit of Hartmanns Weilerkopf and Wattwiller, but were everywhere repulsed.

NOTHING NOTEWORTHY.

LONDON, December 26th.

An official announcement from Headquarters states that there has been normal artillery activity to-day, but nothing noteworthy.

LULL IN THE WEST.

PARIS, December 24th.

A communiqué says there is nothing to report.

RUSSIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SHARP FIGHTING.

THE ENEMY SURPRISED.

PETROGRAD, December 26th.

Some sharp fighting is mentioned in a communiqué, the Russians repulsing an enemy attempt to capture advanced trenches near Buzace. The Russians in the Barontches district surprised and captured an enemy work, which they held against desperate counter-attacks.

AUSTRO-ITALIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

INTENSE ARTILLERY WORK.

ROME, December 26th.

A communiqué states that there have been intense artillery duels on the Tyrol, Trentino and Carnia fronts. The Austrians hurled masses of rock on one village from the heights, but they did no damage.

THE BALKANS

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CONSTANTINE'S DILEMMA.

GERMANY'S REBUFF TO GREECE.

ATHENS, December 23rd.

Germany has replied unfavourably to a request from Greece to prevent the Bulgarians crossing the frontier. There are further reports of Bulgarian and German concentrations.

King Constantine is convalescent and has resumed holding audiences, though he is much affected by the difficulties of the situation.

Meanwhile, the Allies' dis-embarkations continue.

GREEK PUBLIC UNEASY.

ATHENS, December 24th.

The Greek public are most uneasy regarding the possibility of an extension of hostilities in Greek Macedonia, particularly regarding the composition of the invading forces.

The Greek military authorities, however, consider that imminent invasion is improbable in view of the fact that the Nish-Uskub railway is inadequate to transport supplies.

They consider it likewise unsafe, because the Austro-Germans are not sufficiently strong to hold it against a hostile Serbian population.

GENERAL CASTELNAU SATISFIED.

SALONIKA, December 26th.

General Castelnau has concluded his inspection of the Allied positions. He had frequent interviews with the Anglo-French commanders, to whom he expressed satisfaction. General Castelnau has now gone to Athens, where he calls upon the King.

THE GREEK FRONTIER.

PARIS, December 25th.

A communiqué says the enemy has not yet attempted to cross the Greek frontier.

NAVAL ACTIVITIES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DEFENCE OF VARNA.

REPORT OF RUSSIAN LANDING UNTRUE.

LONDON, December 24th.

It is announced that two German submarines have been sent by rail to Rusechuk and thence to Varna for the defence of the Bulgarian coast.

Later news makes it clear that the rumours of the Russian landing at Varna are baseless.

AUSTRIAN SUBMARINE AND PROVISION SHIP SUNK.

ROME, December 24th.

An Italian destroyer has rammed and sunk an enemy submarine in the Adriatic; also a large Austrian ship laden with arms, doubtless for the Albanians.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DIVERS' DISCOVERY IN BALTIC.

TORPEDOED GERMAN SUBMARINE.

LONDON, December 24th.

Divers, searching a wreck off the Danish coast in the Baltic were surprised to discover the remains of a German submarine lying at the bottom. The vessel has evidently been torpedoed.

THE NEAR EAST.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DARDANELLES OPERATIONS.

PARIS, December 25th.

A communiqué says there has been artillery fighting at the Dardanelles.

GENERAL.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIA AND THE WAR.

STRONG SPEECH BY FOREIGN MINISTER.

PETROGRAD, December 24th.

M. Sazonoff, in a strong speech to the Budget Committee of the Duma, said that the relations with Greece were now clear, and in consequence there had been the fortification of Salonika.

The occupation of Hamadan and Kum had enabled them to "scotch" the German intrigues in Persia. Russia should in future adopt a firm attitude towards Persia.

He emphatically denied the senseless peace rumours, and said that Russia was determined to conduct the war to a victorious end.

The Committee passed a resolution emphasising the necessity of devoting closer attention to the Persian front in view of the greater importance of the Asiatic theatre, resulting from events in the Balkans, and also urging on M. Sazonoff that besides military operations the Government should take direct measures to consolidate Russian influence in Persia.

FIGHTING IN PERSIA.

RUSSIANS ROUT REBELS.

PETROGRAD, December 26th.

Details of the defeat of the gendarme rebels at Babatserim, twenty-five miles south west of Teheran, show that the Russians, learning of the arrival at Babatserim of a band of 1,000 horsemen, under the well-known Emir Khishmet, sent a detachment on Tuesday night in order to surprise and destroy them. The Russians found two battalions of gendarmes, 500 horsemen, and 200 Bakhtiari holding a fortified mountain fastness. They were received with a violent fire, but after artillery preparation the whole force attacked and routed the rebels, 118 of whom were sabred in the pursuit.

RUSSIANS ROUT ENEMY NEAR TEHERAN.

PETROGRAD, December 26th.

The Russians engaged 1,200 Persian rebels and gendarmes near Teheran, and achieved an overwhelming success. They killed 140 and captured 70 rebels. The Russians only lost one officer, and a Cossack killed and four Cossacks wounded.

"AUSTRALIA WILL BE THERE."

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION MEETING BROKEN UP.

MELBOURNE, December 24th.

A crowd broke up an anti-conscription meeting at Richmond. The proceedings were most lively, the audience singing "Australia will be there."

The Commonwealth Government appeals to the Churches to observe the 2nd January as a day of special prayer for Divine guidance for Great Britain and her Allies.

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY LAW.

LONDON, December 25th.

A Bradford stuff merchant has been fined £250 for attempting to trade with a German firm at Bangkok through an agent in Switzerland.

THE "ZUKUNFT."

LONDON, December 25th.

The further publication of the Berlin *Zukunft* is forbidden.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

125,000 BRITISH KILLED.

WAR'S HEAVY TOLL.

LONDON, December 24th.

Mr. Asquith announces that the total British casualties up to December 24th in France were 371,517, of which number there had been killed 4,822 officers, and 77,473 men. There were missing 1,699 officers and 52,685 men. In the other theatres, except the Dardanelles, the casualties had been 24,019 of which 871 officers and 10,853 men were killed. The grand total in all theatres was:—Killed, 119,923; wounded, 338,758; and missing, 69,546.

UNITY OF EMPIRE.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP.

NEW YORK, December 24th.

The Canadian Premier, Sir Robert Borden, speaking at a meeting of the Pilgrims' Society, said that he was convinced that the war would accomplish an even closer unity of Empire. The Mother country and the Dominions had never before been so completely united in ideals, inspiration and efforts. He said: "I visited many hospitals where men from all parts of the Empire were brought into close contact, and each were learning better to realise the idea of Empire. All were determined to do their duty to the end."

Mr. J. H. Choate, the ex-American Ambassador in London, emphasised the Canadian-American friendship, and the need of America preparing for war. He added: "There is no telling how soon we may be involved in this war, and it is our duty to render whatever aid we can to our neighbour when the time does come, if ever."

GREAT SUCCESS OF FRENCH LOAN.

PARIS, December 25th.

M. Ribot, Minister of Finance, in the Chamber of Deputies, said that the results of the last Loan were splendid. The subscriptions amounted to 2,350,000,000, including 254,000,000 from London. The feature of the Loan was the vast number of small subscribers. He emphasised that France was entering the market when the enemy was already showing signs of weariness.

POPE AND PEACE.

ROME, December 24th.

Cardinal Vannutelli, who headed a group of Cardinals conveying Christmas greetings to His Holiness the Pope, said that His Holiness, who is the Vicar of the King of Peace, was most fitting to assist in restoring peace, right, and justice. The Pope, in reply, regretted that the war had spoiled the traditional rejoicings, and hoped that, with the assistance of the Almighty, and the prayers of the faithful, peace would soon reign.

EXPORTATION TO SWITZERLAND.

LONDON, December 25th.

The *London Gazette* contains a long list of articles the exportation of which to Switzerland is prohibited except through the Société de Surveillance Economique, an organisation similar to the Dutch Overseas Trust.

INDIAN AMBULANCE CONTINGENT.

JOHANNESBURG, December 24th.

The Imperial Government has asked for a second Company of Indian ambulance men for service overseas. Recruits are now being enrolled. The first contingent of Indians left Durban for Europe on the 17th inst.

AUSTRALIAN WHEAT FOR ALLIED GOVERNMENTS.

MELBOURNE, December 23rd.

The Hon. Thomas Hughes (Federal Premier) announced that 200,000 tons of wheat had been sold to the British and French Governments.

AUSTRALIA'S HIGH COMMISSIONER.

MELBOURNE, December 24th.

The new Australian High Commissioner in London (Mr. A. Fisher) was given an enthusiastic send-off on leaving for London.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FORD'S FORLORN MISSION.

SCHEME RECOGNISED TO BE HOPELESS.

BERGEN, December 24th.

Mr. Henry Ford, organiser of the Ford Peace Mission, has sailed for America. He gave a cheque for 1,000,000 kroner to finance the expedition, which will be in the future he under a Committee of five. It is believed that Mr. Ford has recognised that the scheme at the present juncture is hopeless when official doors are closed.

"DILUTION" OF LABOUR.

A NECESSITY OF WAR.

LONDON, December 26th.

Mr. Lloyd George addressed a meeting of 3,000 Trade Union officials and foremen of works at Glasgow yesterday on the imperative need for the dilution of skilled and unskilled labour.

CARGO FOR INDIA.

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN FREIGHTS.

LONDON, December 24th.

The *Times* learns that liner freight from the United Kingdom to all Indian ports is to be raised substantially early in the new year.

GERMANY APOLOGISES TO SWEDEN.

STOCKHOLM, December 24th.

Germany has apologised for the seizure of the Swedish steamer *Argo* in Swedish waters.

AN ITALIAN LOAN.

ROME, December 24th.

The Italian Government has announced a National 5 per cent. loan, redeemable in 25 years at 97½.

HONGKONG-BORNEO MAILS.

"SATISFACTORY PROMISES" BY THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL OF HONGKONG.

At a meeting of the Committee of the North Borneo Chamber of Commerce on November 27th, the Hon. Mr. W. G. Darby presiding, the following "satisfactory reply" was read from the Postmaster-General of Hongkong to the representations made on the subject of the Hongkong-Borneo mails:—

"I have the honour to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter dated the 14th October. The question of forwarding mails from this Colony to British North Borneo had already been the subject of a letter which I addressed on the 27th of September to the Sandakan Post Office, following a general complaint made on the subject by a local Company. The questions on which I asked advice in that letter were (a) the time taken by letters forwarded direct and via Singapore respectively; (b) how far there is a regular service between Singapore and Borneo. Both of these questions having been answered in advance by your letter, I am now in a position to make arrangements which should ensure the most expeditious despatch of mails to British North Borneo.

The matter is somewhat complicated by the fact that the s.s. *Zin Sang* and *Nan Sang* leave Hongkong at irregular intervals, and long notice of their departure cannot always be supplied by their Agents here. For example, during the months of July-September the sailing dates of these ships were 5th and 13th July, 13th and 18th August, 16th and 22nd September. But discretion will always be used in the matter, and I trust there will be no further cause for complaint. I shall be grateful if any future cases of delay may be reported to this office, accompanied by the covers complained of, with a view to avoiding any irregularities.

"In your letter under reference you state that the shortest time for a letter to come via Singapore is 14 days. I shall be glad if this can be verified, as we only allow 16 days from here to Singapore. The question might be important if, e.g. a steamer for Singapore were leaving here say on a Sunday, i.e. in time to connect with the Saturday steamer there, and a direct steamer were advertised to leave about 7 days later."

The Secretary (Mr. J. Nimmo Wardrop) was instructed to write and thank the Postmaster-General Hongkong, for his courteous letter, and satisfactory promises, and to give him the information called for in the last paragraph of his letter.

There is a scarcity of change in Germany. Copper pennies, which were difficult to obtain in ordinary times, are now largely circulated. Shopkeepers object to accepting whole bags of small copper coins, but they are forced to take them up to the value of £1. Stamps are also being accepted as equivalent to coin, but this leads to trouble as the postage stamp gets dirty and loses its sticking properties as it passes from hand to hand. Young people in tramways are paying conductors with pennies of which there are ten to a penny. The public is awaiting with impatience the new iron coins; some have already been issued, but collectors have snapped them all up.

ARMED MERCHANT CRUISERS.

REDUCED HIRING RATES.

The Secretary of the Admiralty makes the following announcement:—

Arrangements have been made between the Admiralty and the owners of the vessels engaged as armed merchant cruisers for a reduction in the rates of hire which have, up to the present, been paid.

The owners of vessels of the higher speeds have, with one or two exceptions, agreed to a 30 per cent. reduction in the rates fixed by the sub-committee of the Admiralty Transport Arbitration Board in October, 1914, and the owners of the other vessels have agreed to a 20 per cent. reduction in the rates provided for by the agreement of February 24th, 1915. The reductions will apply as from October 1st, 1915, in cases where vessels have then been on charter for a year or more, and from the date of completion of one year's service in other cases.

Arrangements have also been made for a reduction in the rates of hire of vessels engaged in Australian waters. Under an agreement of March 16th, 1915, owners of such vessels were entitled to an extra allowance of 3s. to 3s. 6d. per gross ton per month as compared with vessels engaged in home waters. All the owners concerned, however, have now agreed that this allowance should not be payable after September 30th, 1915, or after three months from engagement, whichever is later.

*Shipowners were approached by the Admiralty respecting a reduction in terms of hire in consequence of the continued employment of the vessels by the Government. It was maintained that the prolonged employment justified a reconsideration of terms agreed upon, mainly with the requirements of the immediate future in sight. Rather curiously, though, while these rates are reduced, freights for cargo steamers in the open market have been steadily advancing during the past few months.

The higher rates for vessels requisitioned in Australian waters were granted owing to the fact that many vessels had made unprofitable, or less profitable, voyages to Australian ports in order to earn high homeward freights. After a lapse of a certain time, however, this reason for preferential treatment ceased to exist.

THE BALKAN SITUATION.

RUSSIA'S CO-OPERATION.

A correspondent in Salonika, representing the majority of the London papers, likens the position of the Allied troops holding the crest beyond the Greek frontier to peas in a bottle neck, there being a single railway leading from Greece into Serbia. The advancing army will be dependent on horse and mule transport via narrow gorges, which cannot be widened. Evidently, to reach the Vienna-Constantinople Railway in sufficient strength to drive back the enemy in the worst season of the year is a slow business. The correspondent, however, appears confident of the truth of the reports that the Russians are about to operate from the North. He opines that the operations with Russia would be a complete strategical justification of our acceptance of all difficulties geographical, climatic and political which with our Balkan expedition is confronted. These reports are strengthened by statements from different sources that the Tenth troops in Serbia are being deflected eastward to deal with the Russian advance, and others are proceeding to Roumania's northern front.

MINES ON THE DANUBE.

On the other hand there are mines on the Danube of which Roumania warned the foreign representatives, and said they would be placed where they would equally impede the Bulgarian and Russian use of the river. The *Times* Balkan correspondent states that the Roumanian Government has opened all stations on the Hungarian frontier. It is expected that the stocks of cereals there accumulated will be cleared out within a week.

THE BELGRADE-NISH RAILWAY.

A Greek, who has arrived at Salonika from Constantinople, tells the correspondent first-quoted that the Belgrade-Nish Railway is restorable in five weeks. While the Bulgars are pleased at the occupation of Macedonia, considerable uneasiness exists. The German help is well below expectations, and the price of victory exceeded the 10,000 casualties originally estimated.

ROUMANIA'S POSITION.

The *Times* Balkan correspondent writes from Bucharest that the date of the inauguration of the Russian offensive is doubtful. Some time may elapse before all the troops destined for the Southern front reach the Danube. The visit of the Tsar to the Danubian ports and the more decided attitude of the *Entente* towards Greece, has impressed the Roumanian public.

"PEACE BOARD" OF COPPER.

AMERICAN PRODUCERS LOOK AHEAD.

According to a leading authority on the American Metal Market "the copper producers and refiners of the United States are furnishing a unique spectacle to the business world, and incidentally paying a compliment to Germany's industries, by keeping up the price of the metal to the point where they are enabled to stock up great stores of it ready for the day when the war is over and Germany's once more can seek in the American market the copper she uses in such enormous quantities in peace times."

Germany is the largest customer the United States has for copper. In the last "peace year" (1913) she took 250,000 long tons, which was practically half the total output and more than the combined consumption of France and Great Britain, of American copper.

GERMAN RULE IN POLAND.

GRINDING MEASURES.

[BY A LEADING MEMBER OF THE POLISH INDEPENDENCE PARTY.]

The financial exploitation of Russian Poland by the German authorities has assumed in certain parts of the country the form of strange varieties of speculation. Thus, for instance, in Lodz, where great quantities of coal are required for fuel in the houses and in those factories which are working at least a small fraction of the time, the German authorities (the Police Office) have introduced a monopoly in coal and coke. No one is allowed to provide himself with coal by any other channel; certain stores bought by the manufacturers without the intermediary of the German authorities have been confiscated.

The German authorities are exacting 4s. 6d. for a sack of coal which certainly did not cost them more than 2s. 2d. The coal is taken from round Dombrowa, mostly from the "Suturn" Mine, which belongs to the same Lodz manufacturers to whom the coal is subsequently sold at such preposterous prices. Even the coal which the town of Lodz is compelled to supply for fuel in the buildings used by the German authorities and Army has to be bought from those same authorities.

For a sack of coke which formerly cost 2s. 5d. the German authorities now charge 4s. 2d. The police office has been making about £10 on each railway truck of coal, and all in all, hundreds of thousands of pounds. The humanitarian same time to give back part of these profits, £500, to meet the needs of the town, but he soon forgot his promise.

In some localities the population has been forbidden to buy provisions from anyone except the German commissariat officers; these were important without exception valueless cattle, fixing for them arbitrary prices. Similarly, the "Wareneinfuhr," which monopolizes the trade in flour, fixes very high prices for it.

EXCHANGE MANIPULATION.

The German authorities have been making a considerable amount of money by speculating on the money exchange. Certain fees are accepted from the population in silver roubles, which are valued very low, while in other cases only marks have been demanded. Especially in the payment for coal the German authorities have refused to accept their own war bank paper (*Darlehensscheine*), and draw out of the country the silver coinage and banknotes, saying sardoniously, "German coal must be paid for with German money." As a matter of fact, the coal in question is taken from the Polish district of Dombrowa.

The German authorities are fixing taxes and raising those which existed before the war. Although all trade has stopped before their order for payment of taxes was published, the said order demands payment of all taxes on industry, threatening first a fine of £20 in default of payment and further fines afterwards. According to their calculations, Lodz alone ought to pay them more than £100,000 of trade taxes.

While all kinds of fees are drawn from the country the German authorities are showing extraordinary ingenuity in exploiting it whenever they are compelled to make investments indispensable to them for military reasons. Thus, for instance, they frequently force local bodies to pay for the repair of the railway or road which they take over in their own military interest. Similarly, the entire burden of the upkeep of Russian prisoners of war and invalided soldiers at Lodz has been thrown on the town.

DEVASTATION OF FORESTS.

The German authorities are ruining the wealth of the country as much as it is possible to do. The confiscation of the estates belonging to the Government and of the "donation" estates threatens the Polish administrative personnel with the loss of employment. Everywhere the Germans are cutting down the forests in a way that creates despair among the population, which sees the complete ruin of all forestry. A special company has been formed for the exploitation of the timber, and is carrying out its programme systematically.

FINES AND FEES.

Incredibly high tariffs have been imposed on the import into Russian Poland of goods which are indispensable to it—for example, oil, soap, food, etc.—Fines and contributions are imposed on towns on the slightest pretext. Besides all this, the country has been ruined by fiscal exactions in the shape of fees for passports and temporary passes. For tickets from one railway station to another simply fantastic prices have been fixed. A temporary pass is required for a journey from one district to another. (There was a time when such a pass was required even for going from one village to another.) Political reasons hardly come in here, because anyone can obtain a pass on payment of a certain fee. But these fees are simply incredible; for a pass to the nearest place one has to pay 2s.; to a place further away, 3s.; and so on. These passes rise as high as 10s. to 20s. In a country with a population of several millions, districts, connected by economic, administrative, and family bonds, had been isolated from one another by the war for a whole month; the fees, therefore, for temporary passes now bring in every month hundreds of thousands of pounds.

In June the fiscal ingenuity of the Germans invented a new source of income. Everybody above the age of 15 has to have a passport with a photograph. For children below the age of 15, common passports without photographs are admissible. The passport costs 10s. The passport does not give its holder any rights, or entitle him to move from one place to another. Thus, if, under the passport law, only two million pass-

WHEN AUSTRIANS AND GERMANS DIFFER.

PIQUANT EPISODES IN A POLISH TOWN.

Recent information has made it abundantly clear that a serious conflict of sentiment and purpose exists between the Austrians and their German Allies in regard to the present and future treatment of Poland. Fresh and remarkable proof of this fact is afforded by a writer in the *Russkoye Slovo*, who has visited Lublin since its occupation by the enemy. Some extracts from his article are given below.

"What struck me most during my visit to Lublin was the holiday brightness which pervaded the place. Austria's policy of ingratiating herself with a variety of nationalities has been practised here in the highest degree. The Russian troops left the town on July 20th, in the night, and destroyed behind them the railway station, the bridges and a series of station buildings. The town remained untouched until July 30th, when the Austrians entered.

"First of all they changed their uniforms, and at noon the pike-bearers began. The first troops to enter the Cracow suburb were a squadron of the 1st Uhlan Regiment of the Polish Legion. At first there was some confusion in the crowd, but it ceased as soon as the strains of the Polish National Hymn were heard. The Uhlans paraded the streets, dressed in the crimson Polish uniform and wearing square hats trimmed with fur. Polish national banners waved and the squadron greeted the people with cries of 'Long live free and independent Poland! Long live the Polish nation!' Polish officers were appointed to the chief administrative posts of the town, and complete freedom was afforded to all the Polish public organizations. Prices of food dropped nearly to the normal, because the Austrians paid in ready cash for everything they consumed.

THE SCENE CHANGED.

"But this idyllic condition of affairs stopped on August 11th, when the Staff of General Mackensen's Army entered the town. All the Austrian authorities were replaced by Germans, who did not stand on ceremony with their Allies. The conquerors of the day before submitted patiently. Then came the customary ugly German business. The Germans imposed a contribution of 350,000 roubles upon the town, without any reason, and took 5,000 roubles from the magistrates' cash box. They made merciless requisitions on everything, seizing provisions, wool, coal, petrol and candles, wool and leather. The German officers and soldiers 'bought' from the shops, without payment, all kinds of wares, and sometimes forgot even to give their celebrated receipts.

"Lublin groaned under the Teutons. As for the Austrians, they were the first to advise the Lublin people not to pay the contribution. The Chief of the Austrian General Staff, von Noef, negotiated on the subject with Mackensen, and the result was the receipt of an order that the Germans should leave Lublin immediately.

THE ROBBERS.

"On the eve of their departure the German commandant, Colonel Schulzmann, found time to pay an evening visit to the magistrate and to demand 25,000 roubles on account of the contribution. At a later hour in the night the Germans forced the President of the town, M. Kolachkovsky, to open the bank in the presence of witnesses and to pay over the 25,000 roubles demanded. In the morning the German troops left the town.

"Colonel Madjara, an Austrian, was appointed Commandant of Lublin, and the post of police chief was given to Leon Chetier, a Pole. In order to pacify the people the new commander issued an order forbidding any kind of requisition. This order was interpreted so literally that when two German officers, according to their habit, took some wares without payment, they were arrested by the Austrian gendarmes. While the Germans were in Lublin prices of commodities rose considerably and petrol and benzine disappeared entirely.

AUSTRIANS KNOW.

"The Austrians chatted unrestrainedly. The younger officers expressed scepticism concerning the reports of the Austrian Staff as to their own successes, spoke with derision of the German statements, and predicted bitter disappointment for the Kaiser's troops in the marshy districts of Russia. 'The Germans, little imagine,' they said, 'what the Russians are. We know them a little better, and we shall hear the Germans singing a different tune shortly.'

ports were issued, the German Treasury will obtain £1,000,000. According to the order of Field-Marshal von Hindenburg, published June 9th, if anyone in the occupied territory should be found after August 1st, 1915, without a passport, he will be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years, or in case of extenuating circumstances, to a fine of from 10s. to £200. In view, however, of the inefficiency of the German administration, von Hindenburg himself had on August 3rd postponed the day on which the passport law would come into force to September 1st.

One cannot tell how many new forms of economic exploitation the methodical German mind will invent for the occupied territory of Russian Poland. The population, tired out by the war, and the country ruined by so many disasters, accepts them in an apathetic mood, finding comfort in the reflection that this system of robbery proves that the Germans do not expect to remain in Russian Poland. One does not ruin economically a country in which one expects to stay.

—The Times.

TOMMY IN TROUBLE.

JOTTINGS FROM AN OFFICER'S NOTE-BOOK.

[BY "STAFF CAPTAIN."]

One cannot very well spend twelve months at the front, as I have, without coming across some odd experiences. They are all in the day's round, and, after a time, are taken as a matter of course. Perhaps some of them, which I jotted down in a rough diary, may be of interest as showing the life and work of our troops in France.

Where shall I begin? Probably one place is as good as another for this purpose. Accordingly, I will start with a little incident that occurred on a certain bleak wintry morning last February. I was sitting in my tent at a rail-head near Armentières. About two o'clock the flap was pulled aside and a man entered and asked for the officer on duty. As I occupied this proud position, I inquired his business.

"Please, sir, I want to go to Rouen," he said.

"Very well; who are you?"

"I'm a prisoner."

"A prisoner? Then where's your escort?"

"Oh, they got drunk at Givendy and lost my ticket. I thought the best thing would be to ask you for another. It's quite all right, sir. I'm sentenced to death. This is my warrant, committing me to the military prison at Rouen. Please, when is there a train?"

I stared at him in amazement. This was the coolest customer I had ever seen. Here was a man walking about with a death sentence hanging over his head and calmly inquiring when it would be convenient to carry it into effect. I asked for details. They were promptly forthcoming. According to the papers he produced my visitor had been court-martialed for sleeping at his post and sentenced to be shot. There was a prospect, however, of the sentence being commuted to penal servitude, and this was why he was on his way to the military prison at Rouen. All I could do was to forward him there with a fresh escort. What his ultimate fate was I never knew.

THE THREE REPENTANT DESERTERS.

On active service the provost-marshal and his staff are very busy persons; and a good many military offenders and a good many military offenders are passed through my hands. It was impossible not to feel sorry for some of them. A case that I recollect was the following.

One bitter night, as I was shivering over a brazier in my hut, there was a timid knock on the door. Opening it I saw three ragged, unshaven, miserable figures dressed partly in khaki and partly in civilian clothing.

"What is it?" I demanded.

"Please, sir," returned the spokesman, "we want to give ourselves up."

"Who are you?"

"Please, we're deserters."

"I suppose you know what you're saying?"

"Oh, yes, sir. We've made up our minds to surrender. We've had enough of it."

The poor fellows looked like it, too. I never saw three such miserable specimens of humanity in all my life. By degrees I got their story from them. According to this, they had been in the trenches and had been sent down to the front six days before. After three days, however, they were ordered to go up to the front again. Foolishly insisting upon what they termed their "rights," they had then to adopt their own expression—"done a bunk." For the best part of a week they had hidden themselves in goods trains and travelled about the country by night, living on turnips snatched from fields or such food as they could procure in villages. The result was they were half-starved and nearly dead with fatigue.

"I suppose you know you'll be shot?" I said.

"That doesn't matter," returned the leader of the trio. "The fact is, we'd rather be shot than go back to the trenches. It's simply hell there just now."

I had no choice but to hand them over to the military police. As it happened, however, they were not shot. They had surrendered themselves voluntarily, and this fact was taken into consideration at the subsequent court-martial.

FED UP WITH SALISBURY PLAIN.

If some men were anxious to avoid the trenches, others appeared equally anxious to serve in them. Apropos of this, I came across two other military prisoners in France, charged with deserting from England. Their story was that they had got "fed up" with Salisbury Plain, whereas what they wanted was to go to the front. Securing a pass to London, they found themselves one night at Victoria Station. There they calmly hitched themselves on to a draft that was leaving for France and entered the train. From the boat at Folkestone, and on board the boat at Boulogne, as nobody asked awkward questions, they stuck to the draft and travelled with them up to Bethune. For nearly a week nothing happened, and they might still be there, only they made a slip. One afternoon they were arrested for being in a café during prohibited hours. When the fact was reported to the colonel of the battalion to which they said they belonged, that officer announced that no such men were on his list. This "put the kibosh on it," as Mr. Atkins says. Inquiries were then set on foot, resulting in the discovery of the real regiment of which these warriors were members. They were both sent back to England to be court-martialed. Personally, I rather admired their spirit. Anyway, they were not shirkers.

WAR NEWS.

THE BABY ON THE PEG.

"I must have been in bed an hour when I was awakened by an awful crash," wrote the wife of a "Tommy" at the front—the letter being quoted in the *Daily Dispatch*. "I knew it was them Zeppes. There was another terrible bang. I took my clothes off the chair, shoved them on a book, gripped baby and ran downstairs to the cellar. Dear—, you must not blame me. I wondered why baby didn't cry. I looked at the dear. Dear—, it was a good job he had a strong nightie on. I know you'll forgive me. If you only knew what I went through. I had hung baby upside down on the wall by the hem of his nightie, and was nursing the big pillow with lace frills. The poor kid..."

ARMY MOUSTACHES.

A London correspondent states that the order has gone forth that officers in the Army are for the future to wear moustaches, if possible. This new edict was announced to a party of aspirants to commissions, and some of them are in quandary owing to their inability to grow the hirsutic effect at all. On the other hand, the toothbrush moustache—the tuft of hair about half the usual breadth—is deemed in the Army, for the officers commanding declare they will not tolerate them at any price. They would rather no moustache at all. The "knauts' tufts," as toothbrush moustache is known in the Army, has become the vogue lately, and although it has been tolerated it has never been admired, and now the halt has been ordered.

EXPLOSIONS IN GERMANY.

Some people have been depressed by the news of explosions in munitions factories in America, England, or France, and particularly by the rumour of a successful piece of German devilry in blowing up a big factory at Petrograd. But explosions happen in the enemy's camp as well as in ours. The French Government issued the following note a few weeks ago: "On the subject of the explosion at Brest Litovsk, of which the papers report that it caused the death of 2,000 Germans, it is noticeable that during recent times explosions have been very frequent in Germany. Correspondence found on German prisoners captured during recent fights have disclosed several. The powder factory of Culand has been blown up. At Reinoldsdorf, near Wittenburg, the munition factory has been blown up and 300 people killed. At Coswig, in a similar accident, 217 killed and almost as many wounded." It is needless to say, adds the French communiqué, that the German newspapers have preserved a discreet silence upon these events.

MORE GERMAN BRUTALITY.

PRISONERS OF WAR TIED TO STAKES AND MERCILESSLY BEATEN.

Some further instances of the Germans' brutality to their prisoners have been supplied to Mr. H. Warner Allen, the special correspondent of the British Press with the French Armies, by a French prisoner who has just returned from Germany.

"My informant," the correspondent says, "was sent to a prisoners' camp in Germany, where he was attached to the infirmary. The staple nourishment was beetroot and rotten cod. Prisoners were continually struck and kicked for the most futile reasons. 'For the smallest offence they were tied to a stake with their heads bare in the full summer sun. A French prisoner who had tried to escape was mercilessly beaten, and the next day orders were given to two of his fellows to tie him to the stake. They refused, and were struck with the flat of a sabre. Everyone, even the wounded, was compelled to work. There was practically no medical attendance, and a paralytic died from want of care.'

O.H.Q. AND THE PLUM JAM.

A part of my work for a short time was connected with the decoding of cipher messages from the Staff. It was always interesting to see what the bigwigs at G.H.Q. (General Headquarters) had to say; and when one of their messages came in to my office there would be great excitement to know what it was all about. I remember one such message arriving. It had come from a specially important commander, and took me an hour to unravel. Everybody gathered round to inspect the result of my labours, which it was thought, would tell us what the Germans were really doing. The despatch, however, merely read as follows:

"Why the devil does the commissariat keep sending me plum jam? Isn't there any other sort in stock?"

THE TEMPORARY CHAPLAIN.

Staff officers when on active service are popularly supposed by their regimental comrades to live lives of mingled idleness and luxury. Believe me, this is the voice of envy speaking with ignorance. In my branch, the Staff had to keep slogging at it for, on an average, sixteen hours a day, and much of the work was most uninteresting. The town was a dreary little provincial hole, and my billet would have been condemned to sight by any sanitary inspector who could do so got out of the place at the earliest possible moment by joining other departments. After a time, however, this practice was forbidden, since there were too many applications. We had one chaplain with us who, on being successively refused a transfer to military banding officer, Press censor, provost-marshal, interpreter, sanitarian, aviator, camp adjutant, sanitarian, road surveyor—and a few other things—applied to become a temporary chaplain. The only result he achieved was to have a medical board assembled to inquire into his mental condition.

Daily Mail.

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"KEIJO MARU,"	IMAZUMI	SUNDAY, 2ND JAN., 10 A.M.
These Steamers of Coast and Formosa Line have excellent accommodation for First Class Passengers and are fitted with Electric Light and Fans.		
These Steamers will arrive at and depart from Soon Yip Wharf (near the Harbour Office).		
For FURTHER INFORMATION, apply to		
H. YAMAUCHI,		
Manager.		
Second Floor, No. 1, Queen's Building.		

PROPOSED SAILINGS OF MAIL STEAMERS FOR MARSEILLES AND LONDON

TAKING PASSENGERS ALSO FOR COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, &c. THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED TO BOSTON AND NEW YORK

Steamer leaves	Steamers to	Leave SHANGHAI	Leave HONGKONG	Connecting Steamer from COLOMBO to MARSEILLES and LONDON	Due at MARSEILLES	Due at LONDON
YOKOHAMA	COLOMBO	HAI	KONG		LES	LONDON
		about	about		1916	1916
Dec. 18 1916	NANKIN ...	Dec. 26 1916	Dec. 30	† MALOJA ...	Jan. 29	Feb. 5
Jan. 2	NOVARA ...	Jan. 10	Jan. 14	ARABIA ...	Feb. 12	Feb. 19
Jan. 16	KASHMIE ...	Jan. 24	Jan. 28	KARWALA ...	Feb. 26	Mar. 4
Jan. 30	SARDINIA ...	Feb. 7	Feb. 11	KHETER ...	Mar. 11	Mar. 18
Feb. 12	NAMUR ...	Feb. 20	Feb. 24	MEDINA ...	Mar. 26	Apr. 1
Feb. 27	NANKIN ...	Mar. 6	Mar. 10	MONGOLIA ...	Apr. 8	Apr. 15
Mar. 12	NOVARA ...	Mar. 20	Mar. 24	MALWA ...	Apr. 22	Apr. 29
Mar. 26	MALTA ...	Apr. 3	Apr. 7	MOOLTAN ...	May 6	May 13

Steamers proceed via Bombay. Passengers change Steamers at COLOMBO. Accommodation in the connecting Steamer from COLOMBO is definitely reserved in Hongkong at the time of Booking.

The Fares to London and Marseilles are as follows:—	
LONDON	MARSEILLES
1st Saloon "A" Accommodation Single £74. Return £111.	1st Saloon "A" Accommodation Single £70. Return £105.
2nd Saloon "B" " " " £58. " £85.	2nd Saloon "B" " " " £54. " £80.
3rd Saloon "C" " " " £48. " £75.	3rd Saloon "C" " " " £46. " £73.

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE MAIL STEAMERS INTERMEDIATE (NON-TRANSHIPMENT) STEAMERS WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON CARRYING 1st AND 2nd SALOON PASSENGER AT REDUCED RATES

STEAMERS	Leave	Leave	Leave	Due at	Due
YOKOHAMA	SHANGHAI	H'KONG	FORMOSA	MARSEILLES	LONDON
about 1915	about 1916	about 1916	about 1916	about 1916	about 1916
NELLORE ...	Jan. 17	Jan. 27	Feb. 2	Feb. 8	Mar. 9
MONGARA ...	Jan. 31	Feb. 10	Feb. 16	Feb. 22	Mar. 23
NORE ...	Feb. 28	Mar. 9	Mar. 15	Mar. 21	Apr. 27
NAGOYA ...	April 10	April 20	April 26	May 2	June 9

These Steamers call also at PORT SWETTENHAM, PENANG and COLOMBO. FARES TO LONDON: 1st Saloon £68 Single £87 Return, 2nd Saloon £42 Single £63 Return. FARES TO MARSEILLES: 1st Saloon £54 Single £64 Single. All Passenger Steamers are fitted with the Marcon System of Wireless Telegraphy. Owing to the War in Europe, Steamers and sailing dates are liable to be cancelled or altered without Notice.

For Further Particulars apply to— E. V. D. PARR, FOR SUPERINTENDENT

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA. THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

DESTINATION	STEAMERS	TONS AND DISPLACEMENT	SAILING DATES
MARSEILLES and LONDON VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, SUEZ and PORT SAID	\$ KASHIMA MARU Capt. Tabusa	21,000	THURSDAY, 30th Dec., at Noon.
	\$ MISHIMA MARU Capt. S. Wada	16,000	THURSDAY, 13th Jan., at Noon.
VICTORIA, B.C. and SEATTLE VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE, YOKKAICHI and YOKOHAMA	\$ SADO MARU Capt. K. Asakawa	12,500	TUESDAY, 11th Jan., at Noon.
SYDNEY and MELBOURNE, VIA MANILA, BANGKOK, THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNSVILLE & BRISBANE	\$ NIKKO MARU Capt. Takada	9,600	FRIDAY, 14th Jan., at 4 P.M.
	\$ HITACHI MARU Capt. T. Sato	15,600	TUESDAY, 15th Feb., at 4 P.M.
CALCUTTA VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG and RANGOON	\$ PENANG MARU Capt. Murazumi	8,000	MONDAY, 3rd Jan.
BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE, MALACCA and COLOMBO			
SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	\$ ATSUTA MARU Capt. T. Sato	16,000	FRIDAY, 31st Dec., at 10 A.M.
	\$ HITACHI MARU Capt. Tomimaga	9,600	FRIDAY, 14th Jan., at 10 A.M.
\$ Wireless Telegraphy.			

SOME PRINCIPAL FARES.

To London 1st Single Yen 800.	To Marseilles 1st Single Yen 650.
" " 2nd " " 400.	" " 2nd " " 350.
To London, Southampton, Liverpool via New York 2nd Single 280.30.	To Victoria, Vancouver, Seattle, 1st Single 225.
To Sydney, 1st Single 240.	To Melbourne, 1st Single 241.
To Yokohama, 1st Return 150.	To Kobe, 1st Return 125.
" 2nd " 80.	" 2nd " 63.

ROUND-THE-WORLD, YEN 1,045.

For Further Information as to Freight, Sailing, &c., apply to—

T. KUSUMOTO, MANAGER. TELEPHONE Nos. 222 and 1341.

